

(11) Swanston House Henry St  
Windsor, near Melbourne  
26 Nov 1881

My dear Andrew,

I today received your  
kind welcome letter of 23<sup>rd</sup>  
and I lose no time in replying  
to it.

My explanation of the  
delay that has taken place  
on my part in writing to  
you is conveyed in a few  
words: for the last 6 weeks  
I have been engaged night &  
day in attending to the most  
difficult, important and arduous  
interesting case that it has

Ever fallen to my lot to  
manage, I will not, indeed  
could not, tell you in the  
compass of this brief letter  
the minute map of work I  
have got through, but a few  
details may not be uninteresting.  
The case is one of marine  
insurance, - constructive total  
loss. The trial has lasted  
for 14 days before the C.J.  
& a special jury of 12 & is  
not yet concluded. Upwards of  
120 witnesses have been exam'd  
on commission or in open court.  
The legal libraries have been  
consulted for authorities,  
as is usual in such cases,

The vast amount of learning  
 on this head contained in the  
 American text books & reports  
 has been carefully examined.  
 The costs up to the present  
 amount to at least £4000  
 & I estimate that £400<sup>is</sup> are  
 being expended every day in  
 Counsel's fees, Witness expenses  
 & all other charges. The C.J.  
 summed up today & the  
 Jury were discharged until  
 28<sup>th</sup> inst. Eleven questions  
 of fact have been left to  
 the Jury & about 30 points  
 are left to the decision of  
 the full Court, which is now  
 sitting. I have been engaged

(4) Sundays included,  
at the office all day & every  
night until midnight & have  
my exertions have elicited warm  
Encouragements from my principals  
& our clients. I may add  
that at least 40,000 folios  
of Engraving have been done  
& of course the case is far  
from being concluded. There is  
sure to be cross-motions to the  
Full Court & an appeal to  
the Privy Council.

When you add to all this  
the usual laborious routine of  
office work you can form a  
faint idea of the labor under  
which my mental powers  
begin to stagger. Strange to  
say that although my

health all this time has  
been very unsettled (dysentery,  
& other excesses) I am cheerful  
& alert, but tonight I feel  
slightly faint & worried - I  
think, however, this arises  
from despondency as I  
imagine the verdict will be  
against us, so much, for  
the present, for the memorable  
case of the "Hond."

Of course, in the face  
of all this, I have not  
had an ~~an~~ hour's leisure  
for my private affairs; my  
garden has been neglected &

The Chef men have been  
untouched for many a week -  
(I think I told you that  
I had again become a Chef  
Enthusiast, that Every night,  
after the surplus office  
work had been disposed of,  
I hastened down to the  
hospitable abode of Mackenzie,  
who lives near me, & beguiled  
a couple of hours with  
that game of mimic war  
& theological or physiological  
speculations).

My views however are  
unchanged & I am quite  
resolved ere long to strike  
out a path for myself

in some left <sup>7</sup>liberal & Conservative  
Colony. With this object I <sup>have</sup>  
opened up a correspondence  
on the subject with some of  
my friends in Sydney & elsewhere.  
My views as to Tasmania  
are well known to you  
& are fully set out in (I  
think) the last letter but one  
which I wrote you.

C. J. Frodsham turned up  
here on 14<sup>th</sup> ulto from  
Dunedin where he had been  
engaged <sup>(i.e.)</sup> as one of the  
numerous commissions issued in  
the "Alma". He was  
in good health & spirits  
& had a vast fund of



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interesting & useful information  
to impart as to his Experiences  
in N. Y. He appeared quite  
reformed, sincerely sorry for  
past errors, & anxious to  
re-commence life on a better  
plane. I am afraid however  
from sundry symptoms he  
manifests on the day preceding  
his departure <sup>for</sup> from Sydney  
on 28<sup>th</sup> ulto, that he carries  
very little mental <sup>ballast</sup> balance &  
that his future will be  
an matter of anxiety for  
his well wishers. I have  
had one short letter from him  
since in which he states, that  
he has commenced work in  
a Sydney office.



My mother, sisters & are  
all well & desire to be very  
kindly remembered. It is needless  
to say that I join with  
them in that wish &  
to - I make my warmest wishes  
for your health & happiness  
of yourself, Mrs Clark, William  
Burr &c. I thank you, over  
& over again, for the many  
kindnesses & favors I have  
received at your hands &  
esteem myself most fortunate  
in having secured so firm  
a hold on your regard -  
I have hoped, & even now am  
hoping, through many trials

P.S. My sister sends her kind regards to you & is anxious to hear from you. - She also does me a letter - I hope to receive it soon.

I difficulties, but my philosophy  
 bears me serenely through  
 them all. I earnestly strive  
 in my humble way to earn  
 the opinion that Hamlet  
 expresses of Horatio to be  
 "As one, in suffering all, that suffers nothing;  
 "A man, that Fortune's buffets & rewards  
 "Hath ta'en with Equal thanks."

If it shall so happen that  
 my load of cares may be  
 removed or lightened I trust I  
 may not be found undeserving  
 of the much-desired relief.

And here I must again  
 express my sorrow at being  
 still compelled to remain under  
 a pecuniary obligation to you.

My brother has left me entirely  
 without funds & my hopes &  
 the expenses of maintaining my  
 family completely absorb all my  
 hardly earned pittance. Still,  
 I doubt not, that when the  
 year closes <sup>(ie. Jan + Dec)</sup> we ~~shall~~ be even  
 on that score, but the debt  
 of gratitude I owe you cannot  
 ever be discharged.

I am truly grieved at  
 finding a tinge of despondency  
 running through your last  
 letter, but I hope that times  
 will improve & that we may  
 soon be able to revive the

Much loved subject of Coalition-  
 No doubt, we can again <sup>discuss</sup> the  
 subject more cheerfully before  
 this year has run its course,

It is Evident from what I  
 have written that my proposed  
 visit from to Tasmania at Xmas  
 it is more than doubtful, but  
 something may "turn up."

I have said my say &  
 will conclude my by again  
 expressing my wishes for your  
 welfare & with sending  
 soon hear from you, remain

Ever yours affectionately

A. Inglis Clark Esq  
 Solicitor  
 Hobart